

San Diego DX Club Bulletin

August 2017



AUGUST PROGRAM

Dealing with Solar Panel RFI - Update

By Randy Standke KQ6RS

MEETING NOTICE:

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2017

JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,

San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988

SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M. DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

MEETING, 6:30 P.M

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From the Prez . . .

Mike, NA6MB

Short report this month... Laid up for a week or so after nasal surgery. Had to get rid of the grapes up my nose.

Anyway, the annual DX Club Bash was this month, and it was wonderful as usual.

Many folks from up in LA and Orange county showed up for our once a year eyeball QSOs. It is always a blast to see and talk to the friends we see too little of through the year.



Glenn and Jane have a great QTH for radio as well for a fun party. Thanks to them and to Ron and the committee for pulling it off in style again this year.

Hope to see you all at the meeting.

73 and good DX

Mike, NA6MB

SDDXC TOP 10 TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON DIGITAL

8/17	8/16	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	K0XB	40	323	328	328	-
2.	2.	NN6K	40	324	325	326	-
3.	3.	N7CW	39	265	266	311	-
4.	4.	K6XT	40	274	283	308	-
5.	5.	WB6BFG	40	254	254	266	-
6.	6.	W6YOO	38	255	260	260	-
7.	7.	NA6L	32	231	232	243	-
8.	8.	WN6K	40	203	205	239	-
9.	-	K6ZH	39	191	191	210	NEW
10.	9.	K5OA	22	174	175	204	-

This time reporting has slowed to a crawl with only one station reporting in. There are plenty of new ones out there for the rest of us, so give the digital modes a try. Digital is becoming more popular all the time. The advent of PSK31 and the new rages, JT65 and FT-8 have really ignited a surge of interest. The old 60 WPM baudot RTTY mode is now heard mostly only on contest weekends.

New software is being introduced all the time. MMTTY is a good one when used with Writelog or N1MM and a sound blaster card, but now I'm hearing good things about a new decoder called "2Tone". Most of the expeditions are now doing a fair amount of RTTY for The Deserving. We'll be looking for many more entries next year in this fun but under-represented category.

Each month, we will publish a top ten list for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, phone and CW. Please send me your totals for each band and mode throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

John, K6AM

Check out the last line on the Alarm page. Must be a pirate, but hope springs eternal!

Primary - CC User K9RHY @ VE7CC-1 (CC Cluster)

Configuration Set Reflector Help Donate

***Connected to: VE7CC-1 Disconnect

Sunrise 10:56Z Sunset 00:21Z Sunrise +5:31 19 Aug 16:28:22

CC11*1007.0*E65UCE*19-Aug-2017*1628*HA6UH*88*GR7BDX*HA6DX*37*14*28*15***E6*HA6*JN97***28.87/0.97***
 CC11*14037.0*1Q7AF*19-Aug-2017*1628*IT026*1ta170 pu006*IK7FHQ*99*0H8X-12*0H8X-12*28*15*28*15***I***JN98***41.12/-16.87***
 CC11*10114.6*0R7U2*19-Aug-2017*1628*CV 02 db 25 MPH CQ*0082-W*RBH*SK1HWR*29*16*28*14***UR*DL*J0A0*50.42/-30.5***
 CC11*14002.6*013P*19-Aug-2017*1628*RTTY 27 db CQ*E65UW-8*RBH*SK1HWR*29*16*28*14***UR*DL*J0A0*50.42/-30.5***
 CC11*14205.0*0H4CJS*19-Aug-2017*1628*tnx QSO*0Y7UW*99*UE7CC-1*UE7CC-1*54*28*29*16***0H2*UR*KN58***3.95/-102.23*46.201.185.62***
 CC11*14204.0*E10HL*19-Aug-2017*1628*lighthouse IE-0000*0N3F2T*29*IK41GZ-5*IK41GZ-6*27*14*27*14***E1*ON*J010***53.13/8.02*00.200.108.70***
 CC11*14000.7*1002*19-Aug-2017*1628*RTTY 11 db CQ*0010H-8*RBH*SK1HWR*27*14*54*28***E1*ON*J010***53.13/8.02*00.200.108.70***
 CC11*14007.5*02110*19-Aug-2017*1628*SARTG RTTY*UE2HNB*99*UE7CC-1*UE7CC-1*18*14*4*5***QC*02*UE*J057*FH36***57.5/-11*142.116.255.245***
 CC11*14020.6*Y15M*19-Aug-2017*1628*CV 26 db 30 MPH CQ*SK3GW-W*RBH*SK1HWR*28*15*18*14***VU*SM***44/-21***
 CC11*10128.0*02KXW*19-Aug-2017*1628*CV 07 db 26 MPH CQ*UL7H-W*RBH*SK1HWR*29*15*28*15***UR*DK*J080*54.72/-20.52***

Settings Country State Bands Users DX WWW = 340 Login Mag Ann = 177 Wx Plus Mail

Spotter	Freq	DX	CQ	ITU	Deg	mile	Time
R1DX	14041.4	NL6/AA7CH	1	1	324	3266	0612Z 19 ALASKA: NA-157 up1
DK1AX	14041.4	NL6/AA7CH	1	1	324	3266	0616Z 19 ALASKA: tnx. hope call ok dk1ax
R1DX	14041.4	NL6/AA7CH	1	1	324	3266	0620Z 19 ALASKA: NA-157 up
RZ3DJ	14041.4	NL6/AA7CH	1	1	324	3266	0627Z 19 ALASKA: NA-157 up1
VK3HJ	14041.4	NL6/AA7CH	1	1	324	3266	0628Z 19 ALASKA: NA-157 up 1
VE7CC-#	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0637Z 19 TONGA: CW 15 dB 28 WPM CQ
JA6WFM	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0639Z 19 TONGA: OC191 now
ZL4YL-#	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0646Z 19 TONGA: CW 04 dB 28 WPM CQ
F6GCP	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0649Z 19 TONGA: up 1.3
VE7CC-#	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0650Z 19 TONGA: CW 20 dB 27 WPM CQ
VK4CT-#	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0654Z 19 TONGA: CW 11 dB 27 WPM CQ
VK6HX	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0710Z 19 TONGA: UP - FB sigs in sth VK6
VK4CT-#	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0717Z 19 TONGA: CW 16 dB 27 WPM CQ
ON4IZ	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0721Z 19 TONGA: OC-191 up 1.5
ZL4YL-#	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0723Z 19 TONGA: CW 08 dB 27 WPM CQ
RA3DOL	14005.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0726Z 19 TONGA: up 1.3
JA0DAI	10102.0	A35JP/P	32	62	253	7129	0802Z 19 TONGA: cq oc-191
OL7M-#	14020.5	PSDX	25	44	337	6870	1011Z 19 DPR OF KOREA: CW 06 dB 26 WPM CQ

ALL 11 18474C

160 10 14099Z

80 8319 8319

60 10741 10741

40 484 484

20 2254 2254

6 1015 1015

2 67

1 1015 1015

70 67

HW 67

Alarm

city dot Com Log Fix Alarm Clear Sound Ann Spot Clear Band

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Randy, KQ6RS

Meeting Minutes, SDDXC Club, July 26, 2017

At 6:30 Ron Richards, WB1EAZ called the meeting to order. 36 members and one guest were in attendance. Our guest was Ed Lutz, ND7X.

Old business – The June meeting minutes and Treasurer's report were approved.

New business – Pete, N6RVI, announced that Ham Radio Outlet in Kearny Mesa is holding their annual swap in the parking lot (aka Hamboree) on August 26th from 8:00 am – 2:30 pm.

At 6:42 pm the roundtable discussion started.

At 7:24 Glenn Rattmann, K6NA gave his presentation called "Fifty-Plus Years Before the Mast," his hands-on journey through the world of antennas and towers.

At 9:20 pm the meeting was adjourned.

Treasurer's Report

Income for July: \$60.00 from memberships

Expenses for July: None

Statement Balance on 8/2/2017 \$6,792.92



Randy, KQ6RS



VP Report

Ron, WB1EAZ



K6NA, Glenn Rattmann, certainly outdid himself with this year's Bash. First of all he arranged with the weatherman to have fantastic weather. Then there was plenty of great food and fellowship. Nat, N6BRV, brought a drone that flew around and provided an overview of the crowd and Glenn's antenna farm.

See the video at <https://youtu.be/N13nfr0EM8E> Approximately 85 members of the club and SCDX and their guests attended. We had a great group of volunteers to set up, get the food, cook, and cleanup. Others brought chairs, tables and popups. This Bash will be remembered for a very long time.

DX has been sparse and infrequent, but hams using FT-8 mode have been very active on many bands and I have been fortunate to pick off a few new slots on 30m. With September just around the corner, the bands will pickup and we should all hear more activity. Mellish Reef will be active later this year. Many are awaiting Bouvet, as this appears to be the next major expedition. This expedition (which is the most expensive yet); has received a significant grant from NCDX foundation, but still needs financial help. As they need all the help we can provide., please consider providing support.

In late breaking news the Holiday Party is set for December 17th at our usual location, Fiddlers Green. (Thanks, NA6L, for your help.) More information will follow shortly.

Recap of July Program

Fifty-Plus Years Before the Mast

By Glenn Rattmann K6NA

In addition to preparing for the Bash discussed above, Glenn provided the July meeting with a great overview of the evolution of Dick's station and towers. He started with his early days in Wisconsin setting up a station at the family home, then on to college. Next it was moving out to the west coast and starting to set up towers. He finally moved to his present location where he's resided for more than 30 years. Glenn provided an exceptional review of this tower experience along with safety and construction tips.

August Program

Dealing With Solar Panel RFI - Update

By Randy Standke KQ6RS

Randy will update his experiences in dealing with RFI from solar installations near his home. This information will build on his previous presentation and will discuss the positive results he has obtained and suggestions for dealing with the RFI. As time permits, a surprise mini program will be presented.

From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY



Sorry I missed the Bash at K6NA's SuperStation, but thanks for the drone video guys!

It's my calendar's fault! Actually, no, it's my fault. I marked my calendar incorrectly. I had two story ideas I wanted to develop for this issue of the Bulletin, but they will have to wait. But thanks to Jim Price, K6ZH, I have the following to enjoy sharing with you:

CONTEST AWARDS – MY HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED!

By Jim Price, K6ZH

My wife Joan, N6KIM recently received her WAS award, and I thought it would be nice to hang it on the wall of our ham shack. Most of the awards I have up there have been on the wall for a L-O-N-G time, they're kind of faded, and it's time for something fresh!

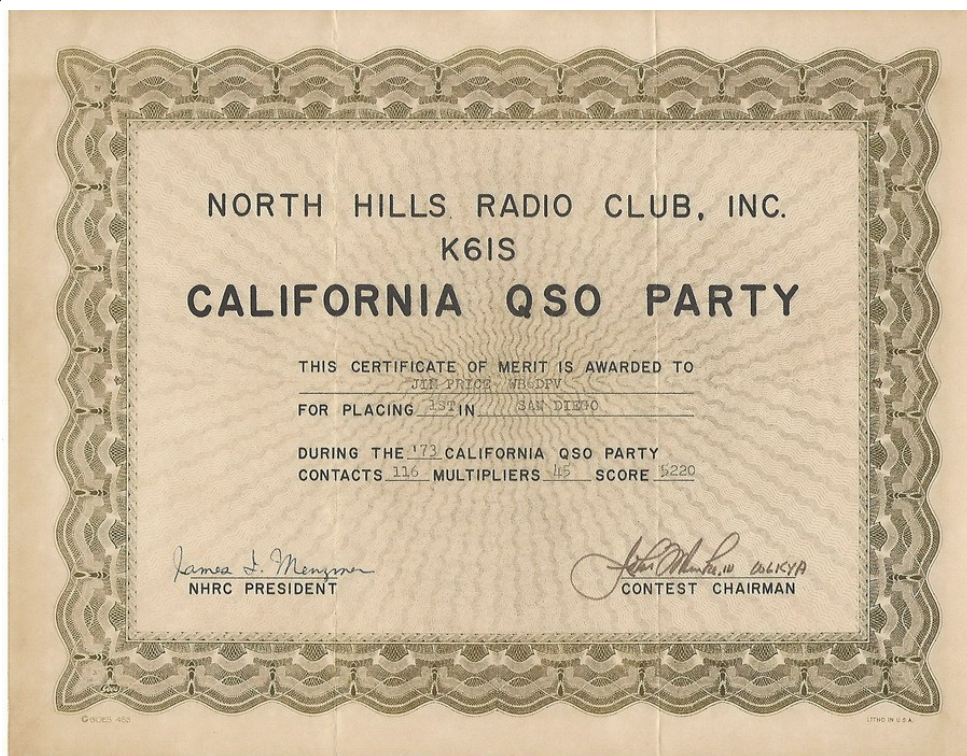
So, I started looking for appropriate frames, which took me to the whole pile awards that I've accumulated over the years – framed and unframed. I'm no Paul WN6K when it comes to contesting, but having been at it for over 50 years, I have accumulated a lot of "wall hangers."

In looking back to the '60s and '70s - e.g. my Rag Chewer Club certificate, my Code Proficiency award, etc – I ran across two contest awards that pointed out how different things are now than back then – in terms of participation and what it took to win an award.

November 1964, my first Sweepstakes. My equipment – a Heathkit HX-11 transmitter and an RME-6900 receiver (a hot one). My antennas were dipoles – 80m, 40m (which kinda worked on 15m), and 20m. The HX-11 had been converted to include a home-built controlled-carrier A.M. modulator. The louder I talked, the more power it put out. I had a Heath HG-10 VFO, but it had so little output above 20m that I was crystal-controlled on 15m. And I only had two 40m crystals that would triple to 15m. [I know some of you newer folks must be thinking – huh??] So I was running 50 watts of A.M. (input) with three so-so dipoles, not much higher than our roof from Santa Maria, CA – as WB6DPV.

Although I was mostly searching and pouncing, I do recall having a short "pileup" on 15 meters – I was probably the only station on from the Santa Barbara section! Pretty exciting for a 17 year old kid.

The results (see below) – I won the Santa Barbara section phone with a grand total of 81 QSOs, 25 sections, and 6000 points!



Fast forward to October 1973 and my first entry in the CA QSO Party (ya, it's been around a long time!) I now lived in San Diego and had just moved into my first home of my own – kind of a “tree house” on the edge of a canyon in Normal Heights. My equipment now was a Drake TR-3 transceiver, and dipoles / inverted Vees on 80, 40, 20, and 15. I had a much better radio location here – especially on 80. Working all continents on 80 meters was the first time I really got “hooked” on DX.

I digress. So, see the award to the right, I won San Diego County in the 1973 CQP with 116 QSOs, 45 mults, and 5220 points! Nowadays there are something like 20 entrants from San Diego County in CQP and some of the biggest scores in the whole contest come from this area! Many people make well over 1000 QSOs!

I think it's still possible to get a piece of wall paper for some contests by entering just the “right category” even with a rather modest score. But I don't reckon we'll see history repeat itself for either of my now-historic awards!



Good luck in the contest, 73

Jim, K6ZH